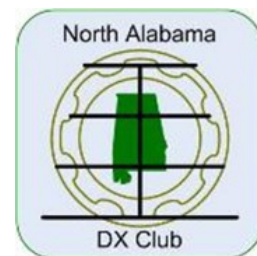


The LongPath

May 2024 — Volume 48 Issue 5

A North Alabama DX Club Publication



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From the President

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

Spring has sprung, the leaves are fully out in Huntsville, and the DX has been great this past month since our last club meeting. From our location in the Northern Alabama and Southern Tennessee areas, many NADXC Club members have been active working stations all over the world including the difficult DX entities in the Southern Asia areas, such as Bhutan (A52), Laos (XW), Vietnam (XV), and Cambodia (XU). In recent days, we have seen some CME activity affecting the HF bands. A couple of days this week, we have had six-meter (6m) openings into our area to/from South America. I was hoping to QSO the Easter Island DXpedition team, 3GOYA on 6m, but nothing materialized for me on 6m even though the A indices reached 10 and the K indices was as much as 4. Since our last meeting, many of us have chased the forementioned DXpeditions, but we have also chased Liberia (A80K); Pitcairn Island (VP6G), Austral Islands, (TX7W); Cyprus (ZC4RH), Market Reef (OJOT); Conway Reef (3D2CCC); and other team and single operator DXpeditions.

I was surprised to hear the news regarding MFJ Enterprises retirement of the owner Martin Jue, K5FLU after 52 years in the amateur radio equipment

business. MFJ has ceased its on-line production but will continue to sell its stock. They will continue to offer repair service work for out-of-warranty and in-warranty products. I have not heard what will happen to their other product lines such as Hy-Gain, Ameritron, and Cushcraft. I would hope that some of the other large amateur radio businesses and companies will purchase those lines, so that those product lines can continue to be produced. MFJ was one of the few companies making it possible for hams on a budget to purchase reasonable ham radio equipment and supplies in the past with a not so expensive price. Thanks to MFJ for allowing many hams to get on-the-air over all of these years.

I am looking forward to the Huntsville Hamfest in August. The NADXC Club is continuing to plan for our main event of the year, our annual banquet. We have our speaker, Gene, K5GS. We have the food caterer and the banquet venue lined up. We still need to discuss the purchase of beverages. We also need to discuss the vendors donating prizes and confirm the prizes to be given away at the banquet. Our ticket sales have begun. At the next meeting we will discuss the status of ticket sales. If you have not pur-

From the President (continued)

chased your ticket(s), please plan to do so soon. With respect to the hamfest, we need to discuss the hamfest table and line-up DXers to man the table & booth at the hamfest. I assume that both AG4W, Steve and K3FRK, Fred will be available to check QSL cards that we will need to confirm again for this year.

As I researched the club history, I put together an information sheet about the club that will be at the end of every Longpath newsletter. It will mainly benefit potential internet readers that are interested in our club. In my research, I also found where the NADXC in years past presented plaques for the “DXer of the Year”, the “Best Longpath Article”, the “Best Club Program”, and a discretionary “President Award” presented by the NADXC President. I plan to revive these awards this year. I hope that this will motivate our mem-

bers to prepare and present programs, write newsletter articles, and to be active in our club. A member who receives one of these awards is NOT eligible to receive another award – only one a year. This way each member still has an opportunity to receive one of four plaques at the end of the year.

Our May program is timely as we approach the upcoming VHF season. I will present “Six Meters: You Must Be Present to Win”, highlighting both 6m tips and the recent aurora propagation. If you haven’t been on 6m lately, you’re missing out!

I look forward to seeing all members at our next club meeting on May 14 at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion at 6:30 P.M. As usual, we will have ZOOM up for those members who do not live close-by, who may be on temporary duty travel, or those who cannot simply make it to the meeting in person. I will send members the ZOOM meeting information beforehand.

MFJ Impact By Steve Werner, AG4W

MFJ announcing the closure of their manufacturing reminded me of when Heathkit began their closure. The impact on my ham experience up to that time was incredible. I had owned a Heathkit HR-10, DX-20, DX-40, DX-100, HW-32A, HW-100 and several pieces of test equipment including an oscilloscope. Like MFJ, they provided cost effective ham equipment. Heathkit kept the cost low by having you build and test the equipment yourself. I really enjoyed that and learned a great deal from it.

My initial reaction was the same both times. Ham radio will not be the same without these companies. I was right with Heathkit. No company provided hams kits on the scale that

Heathkit did. Surface mount technology has made kit building much more difficult. I was fortunate to graduate from college and that provided the income for a new Kenwood TS-430S with a digital display. Fortunately, other manufacturers have moved ahead of MFJ with their products, but unfortunately not at a low price.

I have had the opportunity to meet Martin Jue, the founder, several times and hear him make several presentations. He understood his marketplace and continuously developed new products to fill the need. Most hams like innovative and reliable products at low cost. Many hams, like me, have owned their tuners. I have had their 300 watt and KW models. Both took a lot of

MFJ Impact (continued)

abuse. I replaced the coil in the KW model. Kathy bought me the MFJ-259B antenna analyzer. I was so happy not to have to borrow one anymore. It was used in so many projects. MFJ also came out with one of the first low-cost audio DSPs, the MFJ-784. That was a perfect addition to my TS-430S and it really improved all mode performance. Soon after, many of the manufacturers started to include them in their radios. I also had their voice keyer before they also got integrated with the radios.



Top: MFJ-989D Antenna Tuner



Center: MFJ-941E Antenna Tuner



Bottom: MFJ-784B DSP Filter



Top: MFJ-434B Voice Keyer



Bottom: Ameritron AL-1200 Amplifier

I was also happy that MFJ acquired many companies and continued their product lines. I have used several Hygain and Cushcraft antennas. Both have offered reasonable cost solutions. I, like many hams, have also owned CDE rotors. I was happy when I was able to upgrade to an Ameritron AL-1200 amplifier. It is a real work horse. I have also used MFJ power supplies and antenna switches.

I have worried about MFJ's closure for quite some time. I am pleased that Martin chose to work as long as he did. Working until your 80th birthday is quite an accomplishment. I am sad he did not have a better plan for the future of the company. The pandemic also played a part in it by making parts difficult to get. China also played a part. More of his products started to be made by China.

MFJ Impact (continued)

My hope is that one or several existing companies will pick up part of their product line. This has worked in some cases, like when MFJ or Vibroplex did acquisitions. It has failed in others, like Ten Tec and Alpha. I see DX Engineering, GigaParts, and Vibroplex as some of the potential acquisition candidates. If no buyer is found then RigExpert, Expert Amplifiers, Gigaparts Intellitron line, Yaesu Rotors, and DX Engineering will have less competition which will result in higher prices.



MFJ marketed numerous antenna switches and power supplies under the MFJ and Ameritron brands.

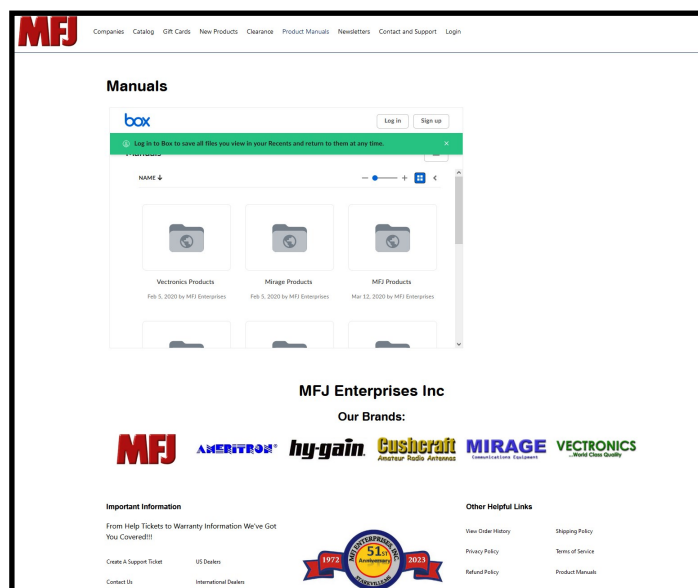
MFJ is Going Out of Business in May, Get Manuals Downloaded While You Can!

By Barry Johnson, W4WB

Who knows how long access to the manuals will be available online? If you go to the link below, you can download the entire library of manuals for products (discontinued, current, new) for MFJ, Vectronics Products, Mirage Products, a Messi & Paoloni Catalog, Hygain Products, Cushcraft Products, and Ameritron Products. To do so, you can use BOX, if you have it, or simply click on the download button/arrow to store it on your computer or backup drive. The complete zip file is almost 1 GB. The number of MFJ products Martin has offered over the 52 years of MFJ Enterprises operation is simply astounding! The MFJ Manual Library is organized by numerical groups using the first number of the product as the group designation. For example, the MFJ-931 will be in the file-group designated as “MFJ-9 Products” in the MFJ Products folder. Although many hams say that MFJ stands for “Mighty Fine Junk”, rather than for Martin F. Jue, I expect that most of us own and use some MFJ products and are glad that Martin made them available. Martin’s callsign is K5FLU

and my original callsign was K5FLY, and we were the first holders. It appears that Martin and I both received our first FCC license on the same day or he perhaps a day earlier. Martin, may you have a well-deserved retirement and many years to enjoy it!

<https://mfjenterprises.com/pages/product-manuals>



Sunrise, Sunset, Greyline, and Enhanced Low Band Signals

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

Serious low-band DXers follow daily solar indices, but these hams also follow daily sunrises and sunsets in their attempts to make that first contact and follow-up QSOs with rare DX countries on the amateur radio low bands (40m-160m). However, hams, specifically DXers, know that long distance signals on the low bands begin to fade and diminish every day when the sun is rising or falling and have no chance of a QSO during daytime sunlight hours. However, DXers have demonstrated increased signal strengths occurring just prior to sunset and after sunrise on the low bands.

Since signals are enhanced prior to sunset and after sunrise, this begs some questions. Picture 1 shows a sunrise in Tennessee. When is sunrise and when is sunset? Are there several definitions for sunrise and sunset? Why do some signals appear strong at these times? Let us dig a little deeper.

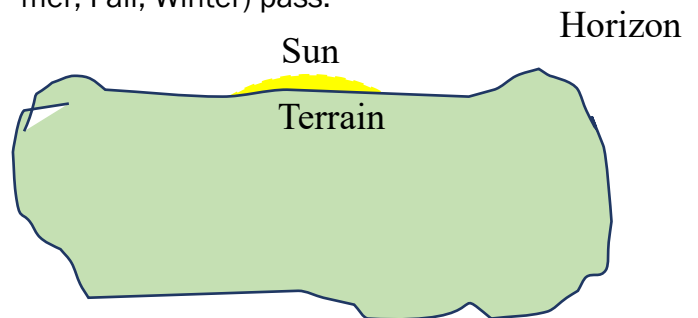


Picture 1: Sunrise in Tennessee

Sunsets and sunrises are NOT defined to be at first light or last light as some hams have stated. I begin to see animals feed such as deer, moose, elk, racoons, skunks, etc. at first light or just prior to last light on a daily basis. Radio signals may become enhanced during these times, but may not be too predictable at first light or last light. So, we need to know exactly when sunrises and sunsets occur.

Many define sunrise at the moment when

the upper edge of the sun appears above the Earth's horizon in the morning. Reference Picture 2. This is typically called dawn or daybreak. The Earth rotates about its axis while circling the sun, which causes the sun to appear every morning and disappear in the evening at dusk, about the same time daily. We must add that the sunrise and sunsets change as the seasons (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter) pass.

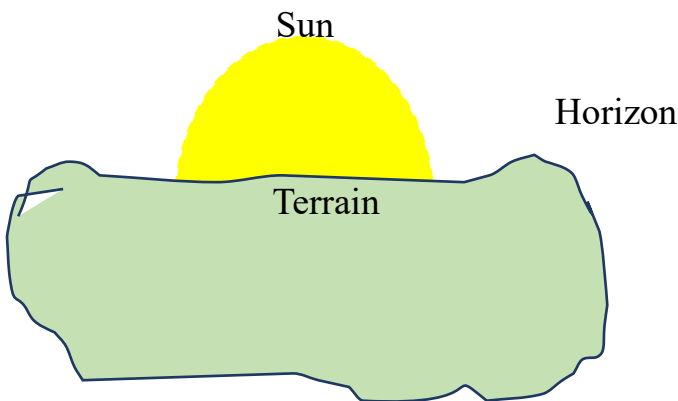


Picture 2: One definition of sunrise – upper edge of the Sun appears at horizon

We have all seen sunrise/sunset tables that have been generated to help weather forecasters, to help hunters during hunting season or during the times the fishermen fish. The calculation of sunrise and sunset involves knowing the observer location, calculate the sun's position, time of year, and determining the sunrise time or sunset times. The calculation of these times includes numerous variables and all play a role in the calculations involving advanced algorithms and mathematical equations.

However, low band amateur signals as seen by avid low-band DXers are predictable and enhanced when the CENTER OF THE SUN is at the Earth's horizon, either at dusk or dawn. Reference Picture 3. The definition of SUNSET and SUNRISE among low band DXers is when the CENTER OF THE SUN is at the Earth's horizon, either at dusk or dawn.

Sunrise, Sunset, Greyline, and Enhanced Low Band Signals (continued)



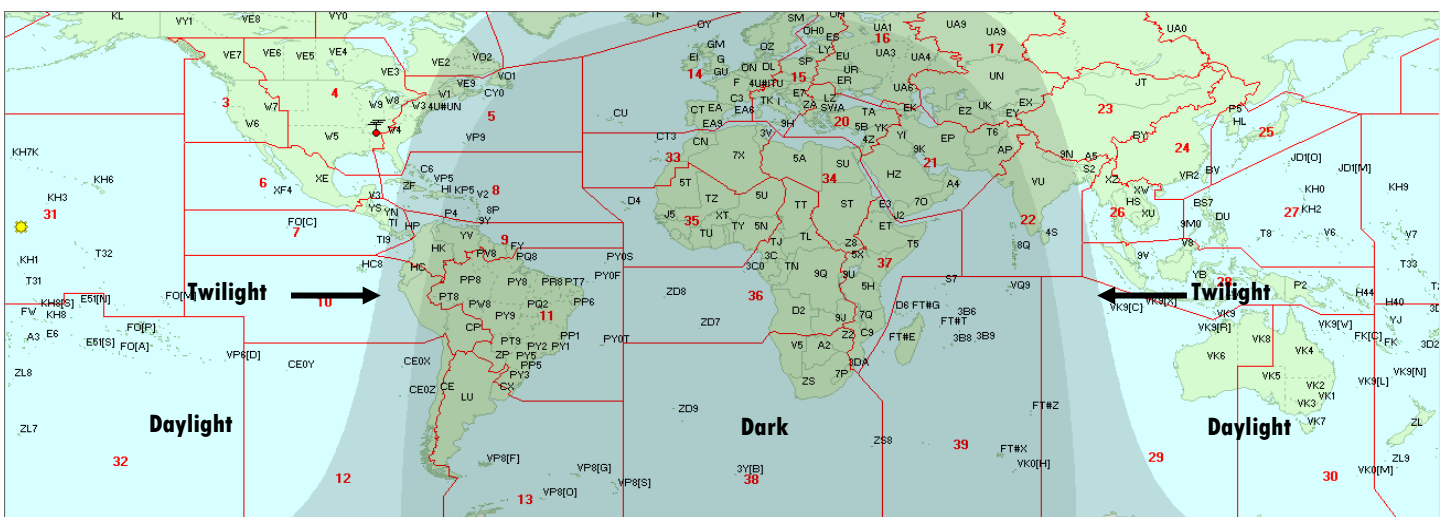
Picture 3: Low band DXers define sunrise & sunset - CENTER OF THE SUN is at the Earth's horizon

This leads us to our next term in this discussion. What is Greyline and how does it affect and enhance signals? GREYLINE (Grey Line) is the band around the Earth separating sunlight from darkness. Picture 4 shows the light-shaded band between daylight and darkness. GREYLINE effects refer to locations along this terminator, encircling the globe along a great circle route. GREYLINE typically provides a low loss path of varying width and duration (duct) depending on fre-

quency with very efficient propagation (and are NEVER shown on computer predictions).

How does Greyline work? Just prior to sunset or just after sunrise (during twilight), D-Layer suddenly causes little absorption, allowing signals to pass through. E-Layer & F-Layer are being ionized, making several minutes of fantastic propagation with almost no signal attenuation while the MUF remains stable. While the sun begins to emit light (morning) or continues (afternoon) heating the D-Layer, eventful long distant QSOs can take place with signals reflecting off the ionized portions of the E & F layers

SUNRISE ENHANCEMENT accounts for the peak associated with signals coming from the westerly directions (NOT on the GREYLINE) here in Northern Alabama/Southern Tennessee areas, but often mistakenly referred to as greyline. These enhancements always occur AFTER sunrise on 30, 40, and 80 meters. However, these enhancements tend to occur at sunrise (+/- a few minutes) on 160 meters. There appears to be refractions from the normal F layer propagation plus another refraction from the E-layer which combine to produce significant gains (on the order of 6 to 10 dB, sometimes even more), forming a duct. Enhancement duration ranges from a few minutes



Picture 4: What is greyline?

Sunrise, Sunset, Greyline, and Enhanced Low Band Signals (continued)

on 160 meters, 10 to 20 minutes on 80 meters, and 30 to 60 minutes on 30/40 meters. Tom Russell, N4KG (SK) NADXC past member also emphasized these same findings and it is documented in ON4UN's Low Band DXING book

SUNSET ENHANCEMENT accounts for the peak associated with signals coming from the south easterly directions (NOT necessarily on the GRAYLINE) in the late-afternoons on the low bands here in Northern Alabama/Southern Tennessee areas. Horizontal ionization gradient results in more ionization on sun side resulting in very "lossy", noisy path. It appears to be a combined F and E layer condition as above, occurring BEFORE SUNSET with durations similar to those mentioned above during a SUNRISE enhancement, also forming a duct and creating enhanced RF signals.

One key point for the morning sunrise enhancement and sunset enhancement in the late-afternoon - it takes a little LIGHT for the low band enhancements to materialize! But when do most enhancements occur? Greyline/sunrise/sunset enhancement propagation is most common on the low bands and best experienced in the mornings or evenings in late Fall, Winter, and early Spring. Morning "long" path from Southern, Middle-Tennessee/Northern Alabama occurs as sun rises (morning terminator) with enhanced signals toward SSW direction in Fall thru early-Spring. Afternoon "long" path from Southern, Middle-Tennessee/Northern Alabama occurs as the sun sets (afternoon terminator) with enhanced signals toward SSE direction in Fall thru early-Spring. Enhancements can develop in Summer if path openings develop.

Many DXers have made many QSOs via the Longpath and via the Greyline in the morning and afternoon on the low bands, but perhaps we did not know the cause. Signals on many of the amateur HF bands have allowed QSOs to be made during the evenings as well with strong signals via the short path when ionization occurs in the F-Layer of the ionosphere. When the "long" paths are open, long-distant QSOs can be made to some of the more difficult DXCC countries by following some of the information shared in this article.

Some DXpeditions have literally quit transmitting abruptly when the sun came up at my QTH in the morning at my sunrise, while many QSOs were being made and having enhanced signals and perhaps lower SNR than prior to our sunrise. Many more QSOs could have been made, but there is a myth that made its way thru the ham community years ago that 160m/80m is dead at our sunrise or the DX stations sunset and vice versa. This has been proven to be incorrect and many in the low band DX community today understand this. That is why sunrise and sunset times are so important to the low band DXer. I hope this information has been helpful and helps each of us better understand the best times low band signals may be enhanced, allowing us to work a new DXCC country.

To put the icing on the cake, on the next page is a 160m QSO made at my sunset in February 2014 to FT5ZM, Amsterdam Island in the Indian Ocean near my antipode. FT5ZM signals peaked out of the noise in the Southeast direction on my beverage receive antenna near my sunset. Increased signal strengths were received for about 10 to 15 minutes before signals were ultimately covered in the noise (High SNR), making reception very difficult and QSOs impossible. In this instance and prior to signals fading, the timing was perfect, providing for a signal enhance-

Sunrise, Sunset, Greyline, and Enhanced Low Band Signals (continued)

ment allowing many local DXers in Northern Alabama/Southern Tennessee the opportunity to put a “New One” in our logs on 160m.



Above: The front of AC4G's QSL card from FT5ZM, Amsterdam Island.

Date	UTC	Band	RST	2X	Operator
2/8/2014	02:39:45	17M	599	RTTY	K5CT
2/9/2014	23:34:11	160M	599	CW	UA3AB
2/10/2014	12:00:05	12M	59	USB	N200

THE FT5ZM TEAM IS HAPPY TO CONFIRM QSO(s) WITH:

AC4G

Date: 2/8/2014 UTC: 02:39:45 Band: 17M RST: 599 2X: RTTY Operator: K5CT

Date: 2/9/2014 UTC: 23:34:11 Band: 160M RST: 599 2X: CW Operator: UA3AB

Date: 2/10/2014 UTC: 12:00:05 Band: 12M RST: 59 2X: USB Operator: N200

Tnx QSL! de FT5ZM (via N200)

QSL Manager: Bob Schenck, N200 / QSL SUPPORT: QSL designed by S08X.net QSL printed by W7BP

QSL Manager: Bob Schenck, N200 / QSL SUPPORT: QSL designed by S08X.net QSL printed by W7BP

QSL Manager: Bob Schenck, N200 / QSL SUPPORT: QSL designed by S08X.net QSL printed by W7BP

Left: AC4G made the 160m QSO at his sunset.

Upcoming NADXC meeting

Tuesday, May 14th, 2024

5:45 PM Doors Open / 6:30 PM Meeting

Presentation: Bruce Smith, AC4G - Six Me-
ters: You Must Be Present to Win

Location: Signals Museum of Information Ex-
plosion, 1806 University Drive NW, Huntsville,
AL 35801 and via [Zoom](#)

NOTE: We are using an alternate Zoom link
for May and June 2024. Use the above link to
join. Previous links will not work.

2024 DX Banquet tickets are available for purchase.

Presentation: Gene Spinelli, K5GS—TX5S
Clipperton Island DXpedition

Date: Saturday, August 17th

Location: Signals Museum of Information
Explosion, 1806 University Drive NW,
Huntsville, AL 35801

Tickets can be purchased on the [NADXC
website](#).

Upcoming DX Contests

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM



CQ-M Intl. DX Contest (CW & SSB), 160-10M

May 11, 1200Z to May 12, 1159Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial #

See page 77, May QST and <https://cqm.srr.ru/rules-en/>

Volta WW RTTY DX Contest (DIG), 80-10M



May 11, 1200Z to May 12, 1200Z

Exchange: RST, plus S/N, and CQ zone

See page 77, May QST and

www.contestvolta.com

DARC FT4 Contest (DIG), 80M



May 14, 1900z to May 14, 2000Z

Exchange: RST plus 4-char. grid

See page 77, May QST and www.darc.de

His Majesty King of Spain Contest, (CW), 160 – 10M



May 18, 1200Z to May 19, 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial # or EA Province

See page 77, May QST and <https://concursos.ure.es/en/s-m-el-rey-de-espana-cw/bases/>

UN DX Contest

UN DX Contest, (CW & SSB), 80 -10M

May 18, 0600z to May 18, 2100Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus serial or Kazakhstan district code

See page 77, May QST and www.undxc.kz/rules-eng

EU PSK DX Contest, (DIG) 80– 10M



May 20, 1200Z to May 21, 1200Z

Exchange: RST plus Serial or EU area

See page 73, May QST and

www.eupsk.club/eupskdx/eupskdxrules.pdf

Baltic Contest, (CW & SSB), 80M



May 18, 2100Z to May 19, 0200Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus serial

See page 77, May QST and <https://www.lrsf.it/en/balticcontestrules/>

CQ WPX CW Contest (CW), 160-10M



May. 25, 0000Z to May 26, 2359Z

Exchange: RST plus serial #

See page 77, May QST and www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm

ARRL International Digital Contest, (DIG), 160 – 6M



June 1, 1800z to June 2, 2400Z

Exchange: 4-character grid square

See <https://contests.arrl.org/dig/>

Asia-Pacific Sprint (SSB), 20 & 15M



June 8, 1100Z to 1300z

Exchange: RS plus serial #

See <http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt>

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware. See also: <http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>



DXpeditions in May 2024

Reprinted with permission of Bill Feidt, NG3K



2024 Apr29	2024 May16	Bermuda	VP9	LoTW	By KG9EE as VP9/KG9EE; 20m; FT8
2024 Apr30	2024 May13	Botswana	A25SHD	LoTW	By HB9SHD; 40 20 15 10m; holiday style operation
2024 May02	2024 May17	Rwanda	9X2AW	M00XO OQRS	By DF2WO fm Kigali; HF; CW SSB FT8 FT4; 100w
2024 May02	2024 May12	Cambodia	XU7GNY	Club Log OQRS	By DL7BO; 160-6m, focus on low bands; CS SSB FT8
2024 May03	2024 May08	Barbados	8P9NO	Club Log OQRS	By PH0NO; 20-10m; SSB CW; 100w; wires; holiday style operation
2024 May10	2024 May17	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	LoTW	By N5TCH as V4/N5TCH; HF; holiday style operation
2024 May11	2024 May19	Bolivia	CP7DX	LoTW	By LU1FM LU6FOV LU7HN LU7MT LU8YD LU9FHF LU5DF; 160-6m; SSB FM CW FT8 FT4; QSL via Club Log OQRS
2024 May14	2024 May26	Barbados	8P9CB	WA7RAR	By WA7RAR; 20-10m; SSB CW
2024 May17	2024 May27	Cyprus SBA	MW0BRO	LoTW	By MW0BRO fm nr Dhekelia (KM64ww); 40-6m; CW; 100w; possibly also using 5B/MW0BRO
2024 May19	2024 May31	Maldives	8Q7KR	DO4RKR (B/d)	By DO4RKR fm Joy I; 10m; SSB
2024 May22	2024 Jun03	Br Virgin Is	VP2V	LoTW	By W5GI as VP2V/W5GI fm Anegada I; 20-10m; SSB
2024 May22	2024 Jun05	Ogasawara	JD1BQW	LoTW	By JA6VZB fm Chichijima I; focus on 12 6m; FT8; QRV for CQ WPX CW and ARRL Digial; QSL via Club
2024 May23	2024 May27	Bermuda	VP9	See Info	By AB2E as AB2E/VP9; low bands; CW FT8; QSL via LoTW; QRV for WPX CW using VP9I (QSL via WW3S)
2024 May24	2024 Jun19	Glorioso Is	FT4GL	LoTW	By FH4VVK fm Grande Glorioso I (IOTA AF-011); HF; QSL via F4FTV
2024 May25	2024 May29	Monaco	3A	LB3LJ Direct	By LB3LJ as 3A/LB3LJ; HF
2024 May30	2024 Jun10	Pitcairn	VP6DF	LoTW	By WJ2O fm IOTA OC-063; 160-10m; CW; QSL via N2ZN
2024 May30	2024 Jun20	Crete	SV9	DK5EW Direct	By DK5EW as SV9/DK5EW; 6 4m



Club Business and Announcements

April 2024 Meeting Minutes by Barry Barton, WA4HR

April 9th, 2024 — Meeting called to order at 6:31 P.M. by President Bruce Smith, AC4G.

Introduction and Announcements

- Members and guests, both online and in-person, were welcomed. There were no guests either way.
- The club received a membership application for induction into the club, Ryan Perillat W2LAT. Ryan's application was voted on and approved, welcome aboard Ryan.
- Congratulations goes out to Steve Werner, AG4W and YL Mary Lou on their recent marriage. They are on their honeymoon at Visalia in California. He is actually providing a program on TJ9MD Cameroon DXpedition.
- Mick Bell's (N8AU) YL, Sandy is undergoing and recovering from chemo/radiation for cancer. Let us all keep Sandy and Mick in our thoughts & prayers as they cannot make our meetings.
- DX Worked: One of the exciting parts of the meeting is reviewing DX worked this past month by our club members.
- NADXC Club dues are still due. Our annual club dues should be paid as soon as possible.
- Thanks to those of you who have paid your 2024 dues.
- LONGPATH (Newsletter): WE NEED ARTICLES!! Thanks to WA4HR, NG3K, N4NM, and AC4G for their contributions to the Longpath this month.
- Meeting Minutes (printed in April 2024

LONGPATH) were voted on and approved without changes being made.

Old Business

- Last month (March) the club received requests to support some DXpeditions.
- Last month the club voted not to donate to Liberia (A80K) & Pitcairn Island (VP6G) – currently active on-the-air.
- Bruce received an email from Ken Opskar, leader of the 3YOK DXpedition. Ken explained the various methods of travel to the island and their associated costs. After a lot of discussion, the club thought it would be a good idea to send \$200.00 to 3YOK DXpedition Bovet. Club voted and approved sending \$200.00.
- Bruce received a new funding request from Don Greenbaum, N1DG to support August/September 2024 Jarvis Island DXpedition, N5J. Jarvis island is #18 on the Most Wanted List. They will be using the RIB (Radio In Box) U.S. Fish & Wildlife has issued a special use permit due to the RIB concept making a smaller footprint. Further discussion has been postponed to next month's meeting (May).
- The club forwarded paperwork to the League via Mickey Baker, N4MB and the League (ARRL) approved Fred Kepner, K3FRK as the newest QSL Card Checker in the Southeastern Division. Congratulations, Fred! Check out ARRL Web site showing Fred as QSL Checker.
- We followed up and contacted this year's NADXC Banquet Speaker, Gene Spinelli, K5GS. Gene will share the team's experience

April 2024 Meeting Minutes (continued)

on Clipperton Island, TX5S.

- Barry, WA4HR spoke briefly about this year's upcoming DX Banquet. Good news, tickets will remain at last year's price, which was \$45.00.

New Business

- NADXC Fact Sheet – Developed and will be included in all Longpath newsletter issues to help those hams on the fence deciding wheth-

er or not they want to be part of the North Alabama DX Club.

- NADXC Application for DXpedition Funding has been developed. It requests an applicant to answer 19 questions to allow the NADXC to decide if we should fund a particular DXpedition.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

Krish Kanakasapapathi, W4VKU provided a presentation on his activations of VU7A and VU4N.

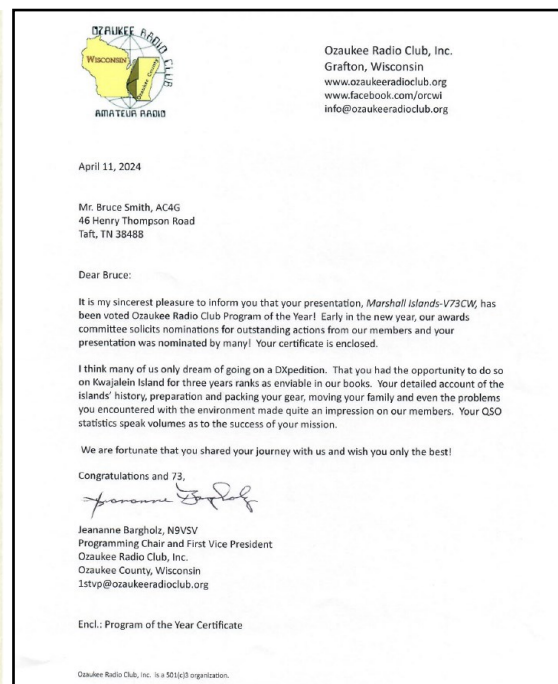
Bruce Smith, AC4G Recognized for Program of the Year

The NADXC's own Bruce Smith was recently recognized by the Ozaukee Radio Club of Wisconsin. Bruce's presentation to the club on his operations as V73CW in the Marshall Islands was selected by the club as the "Program of the Year".

When recognizing Bruce, the Ozaukee Radio Club said: "I think many of us only dream of going on a DXpedition. That you had the opportunity to do so on Kwajalein Island for three years ranks as enviable in our books. Your detailed ac-

count of the islands' history, preparation and packing your gear, moving your family and even the problems you encountered with the environment made quite an impression on our members. Your QSO statistics speak volumes as to the success of your mission. We are fortunate that you shared your journey with us..."

Congratulations Bruce and thank you for all you do to support NADXC and ham radio!



GET PREPARED. GET OUT THERE.

Adventure READY



GigaParts
Technology Superstore

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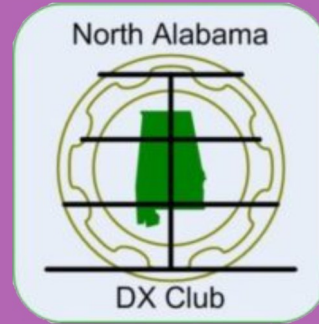


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It's time to pay 2024 membership dues.

Dues can be paid electronically at the [NADXC website](http://www.NADXC.org). Contact Barry, WA4HR (treasurer@nadxc.org) for information about other payment options.

2024 NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Bruce Smith, AC4G
Vice President	Fred Kepner, K3FRK
Sec./Treasurer	Barry Barton, WA4HR
Directors:	Mick Bell, N8AU
	Bob De Pierre, K8KI (Ex-Officio)

How to Join

Come to a club meeting or send in an application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org)

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at the Museum of Information Explosion at 6:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Participants can also join the meeting virtually via [Zoom](https://zoom.us).

This edition of The LongPath published by:
Fred Kepner, K3FRK

North Alabama DX Club (NADXC)

“Club Fact Sheet”

Who We Are: NADXC is a group of active radio amateurs with a deep compassion for working DX, contesting, and other aspects of Amateur Radio. We welcome everyone who is interested in joining our club. NADXC members are active in all facets of DX and contesting. The NADXC also donates funding for various DXpeditions all over the world. The NADXC sponsors a DX Banquet in mid-August of every year in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. NADXC members moderate various programs at club meetings and during the Huntsville Hamfest, covering amateur radio technical and operating topics for all to learn and enjoy. The NADXC sponsors a prestigious award at the end of year for the most deserving DXer of the Year from the NADXC club.

DX Funding Policy: The policy supports major DXpeditions that meet our requirements for financial sponsorship. Details are available on the NADXC website and in the “Longpath” newsletter.

Club History: The NADXC was organized in December 1966 by a group of 12 charter members. The original constitution was adopted and signed on December 19, 1966. The first chairman was Dan Whitsett, W4BRE (SK). In the early-1970's, the NADXC was custodian of the W4, K4 QSL Bureau which became such a huge undertaking that it eventually was passed to other larger clubs. In January of 1977, the club bought a VHF repeater for sharing DX spots and hosting a weekly net on Wednesday nights. The repeater was located on Redstone Arsenal, Weeden Mountain using the frequencies of 147.91/147.31 MHz on two meters. Today, the repeater has been relocated and utilizes the frequencies of 147.90/147.30 MHz, with a callsign of W4QB. The weekly net has been discontinued. In 1980, the club started the monthly newsletter known as the “Longpath” which currently continues to be produced every month.

While organized as a DX club, NADXC members are active in all aspects of the hobby. We trust that this information will be of interest to all and hope all hams have a long and pleasant association with the NADXC.

Requirements for Membership: The NADXC welcomes all hams radio operators who have an interest in DXing. It does not matter whether you are a new ham, a seasoned ham operator, an old-timer to DXing, or a ham who has just been hit with the DX bug; everyone is welcome! See the club website: www.nadxc.org. Dues are paid in January of every year.

Meetings: The NADXC club meets the second Tuesday night of every month, with the current location at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion (MIE) located at 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, Alabama and virtually via Zoom. Some members gather early to eat their dinner, socialize, discuss DX worked, and then we have a short business meeting starting at 6:30 P.M. CT. followed by an exciting, interesting program to help, entertain, and teach members about DX and amateur radio in general.

Club Officers: There are four elected officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and three elected directors on the NADXC Board of Directors. The current roster of club officers and directors can be seen on the NADXC web site or in the “Longpath” newsletter, which is uploaded each month to the club website.

Website: The NADXC club maintains a website at www.nadxc.org. This site provides club information and activities throughout the year about a variety of subjects related to the club, DX, and amateur radio.